

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 304654

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL DISCRIMINATION BASED ON JEWISH FAITH
KUWAIT POUCH BAGHDAD FOR ACTION

1. RECENT COMMERCE DEPARTMENT REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL
EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS, SUBMITTED BY U.S. FIRMS
WHICH AVE RECEIVED BOYCOTT REQUESTS, HAS PRODUCED 13
REPORTS IN WHICH U.S. FIRMS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO DECLARE
NON-JEWISHNESS OF COMPANY OFFICIALS OR OWNERS. ALL OF
THESE CASES APPEAR TO INVOLVE FORMS ISSUED OR USED BY
GOI PATENT OFFICE FOR RENEWAL OF TRADEMARKS OR PATENTS.
TWO OF THESE REPORTS INVOLVE FORMS FROM ADVOCATES
LATIF AL-HAKIM AND KAMIL JAMMOOA OF BAGHDAD USED TO
APPOINT SAME AS AGENTS TO RENEW, AMEND, ETC. TRADE MARKS
AND PATENTS. LANGUAGE TYPICAL OF ALL 13 REQUESTED DE-
CLARATIONS FOLLOWS: "AND WE HEREBY SOLEMNLY DECLARE
THAT WE, OR THIS COMPANY, ARE NOT JEWISH NOR CONTROLLED
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BY JEWS OR ZIONISTS..." REPORTS DESCRIBED COVER TIME

FRAME FROM APRIL 1969 TO AUGUST 1975. NAMES OF U.S. FIRMS WHICH FILED THESE REPORTS AS REQUIRED BY EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 1969 ARE NOT IDENTIFIABLE BECAUSE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF REPORTS UNDER PROVISIONS OF THAT ACT.

2. USINT REQUESTED MAKE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS TO GOI TO SEEK ASSURANCES THAT IT IS NOT GOI POLICY TO DISCRIMINATE ON BASIS OF RELIGION IN PROCESSING OF PATENT AND TRADEMARK APPLICATIONS OR IN OTHER COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS. USINT MAY REITERATE USG UNDERSTANDING THAT ENFORCEMENT OF BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL IS UNRELATED TO RELIGION OF PERSONS INVOLVED. YOU MAY WISH TO REFER TO ANNOUNCED IRAQI POLICY OF NOT DISCRIMINATING ON BASIS OF RELIGION AS INDICATED BY RECENT AD IN "NEW YORK TIMES" INVITING IRAQI JEWS TO RETURN TO IRAQ. USINT MAY ALSO WISH TO CONTACT ABOVE-NAMED ADVOCATES AS MEANS OF SEEKING END TO REQUESTS FOR DISCRIMINATORY DECLARATIONS RE JEWISH RELIGION IN CONNECTION WITH APPOINTMENT AS AGENTS FOR U.S. FIRMS. USINT MAY INFORM GOI AND IRAQI ADVOCATES THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL UNDER EXISTING COMMERCE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS FOR U.S. FIRMS TO COMPLY WITH REQUEST FOR DECLARATIONS WHICH DISCRIMINATE ON BASIS OF RELIGION.

3. FYI IN RELATED SITUATION, SAUDI ADVOCATE WHO APPEARS TO HANDLE MOST AGENCY WORK RELATED TO PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS IN SAUDI ARABIA HAS RECENTLY GIVEN US ASSURANCES THAT FORMS THAT HE USED IN PAST CONTAINING LANGUAGE DISCRIMINATING ON BASIS OF RELIGION ARE "OUTDATED AND OBSOLETE... NO LONGER USED FOR AMERICAN COMPANIES" END FYI.

4. DETAILED REPORTING REQUESTED ON RESPONSES TO USINT EFFORTS TO OBTAIN END TO COMMERCIAL DISCRIMINATION ON BASIS OF RELIGION. ROBINSON

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